



# COMMISSION ON INSURANCE

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Scott J. Svonkin  
**Chairperson**

Daniel Falcon  
**Vice-Chairperson**

Barry R. Binder  
Michael G. Cheung  
Stephen Fluharty  
Rickey Ivie  
Don Lee  
Curren D. Price, Jr.  
Rose Reets  
Patricia Torres

### MINUTES

Meeting of February 14, 2002  
830 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration

**Commissioners Present:** Barry Binder, Michael Cheung, Rose Reets, and Scott Svonkin

**Commissioners Absent:** Daniel Falcon, Stephen Fluharty, Rickey Ivie, Don Lee, Curren D. Price, and Patricia Torres

Chairperson Svonkin noted the lack of a quorum and called a meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 10:25 a.m.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 13, 2001

This item was continued to the next meeting.

### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Svonkin asked if there were any issues regarding the minutes of December 13, 2001. No comments were made.

Chairperson Svonkin made the following announcements:

- Commissioner Torres gave birth to a baby girl on January 24, 2002 by Cesarean section and would not be attending the next few meetings. He requested staff send her the Commission's official congratulations.
- Don Lee was attending the funeral services of a coworker and as a result was unable to attend.
- Commissioner Stephen Fluharty has not been present for a number of meetings and the appointing Supervisor's office to may soon replace him.
- Staff will extend an invitation to County Counsel to have a representative attend future meetings.
- Staff will check for press release articles from the Beverly Press, L.A. Times and the Daily News newspapers regarding the Commission's Northridge earthquake hearing and the deadline for filing claims.
- There will be a "Scott Svonkin Birthday Charity Bash" on February 18, 2002 at the Hollywood Entertainment Museum from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and that all the Commissioners were invited to attend.
- New Commission members are asked to please review the list of subcommittees and

- consider the body with which they would be interested in participating. Staff will send out information regarding the existing subcommittees in the next meeting packet.

#### **DISCUSSION OF AB 1118 (CORBETT) REGARDING SEISMIC SAFETY: INSURANCE: TAX CREDITS: RETROFITTING**

Chairperson Svonkin briefly discussed the fact that this item is law and asked the Commission to consider asking the Board of Supervisors to publicize the availability of these tax credits to the public. The State Insurance Commissioner's Office has already sent out a press release and the Commission could use it as a guideline to notify the public. This item was continued to next meeting.

#### **DISCUSSION OF TERRITORIAL RATING OF AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE**

Chairperson Svonkin recognized that this topic would be of interest to the subcommittee chaired by Vice Chairperson Falcon. Therefore, this item was continued to next meeting.

#### **ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

This item was continued to next meeting.

#### **COMMITTEE TASK FORCE UPDATES AND PLANNING**

This item was continued to next meeting

#### **MATTERS NOT ON POSTED AGENDA (To be placed on the agenda for discussion at a future meeting)**

Chairperson Svonkin asked staff to try to arrange the next meeting to be held on March 21, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 830.

Chairperson Svonkin discussed the fact that the County is in the process of studying possible restructuring of the healthcare system and creating a health authority that would be independent from the Department of Health Services (DHS). This is an area with which the Commission should be attuned as DHS has a deficit of \$800 million and this could impact in the costs and services provided to the insured in Los Angeles County.

Chairperson Svonkin asked staff to inquire of County Counsel about whether the County has been able to settle damage claims with the various insurance companies for insured County property that sustained damage in the Northridge earthquake.

Commissioner Binder briefly discussed tax advantages afforded to the insurance companies such as taking a tax credit on their state income tax equal to the amount that they pay in property taxes. Chairperson Svonkin asked Commissioner Binder to prepare a formal report for the Commission regarding this topic.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were none.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Staff**

Gene Romig	Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Martha Littlefield	Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Ken Wales	Executive Office, Board of Supervisors